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## THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

Deputy Director for National Foreign Assessment

22 December 1980

Mr. Harry G. Barnes, Jr.  
Director General of the Foreign Service  
Room 6216  
Department of State

Dear Mr. Barnes:

In the coming year we expect to prepare a major National Intelligence Estimate on China, and we are now attempting to secure a suitable drafter for the project. We have identified [redacted] now serving with the Embassy in Tokyo, as an eminently suitable officer for the assignment, and we understand informally that he is interested in being considered for it.

The purpose of this letter is to make a formal request that [redacted] be so assigned. What we have in mind would be a short-term non-reimbursable detail of [redacted] to the National Intelligence Council of CIA for a period of several months, beginning shortly before he would normally be rotated from Tokyo. We believe this would be agreeable to EA Bureau. We would propose to provide office space here for [redacted] for a period permitting him to produce an initial draft of the estimate.

We would be most grateful if you could make [redacted] available to us for this particular project, which we consider to be of very high potential interest and importance to the foreign policy and intelligence communities of our government. Thank you for your early consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

[redacted]  
Richard Lehman  
Chairman

National Intelligence Council

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